

Safe Routes to School

2022

School Traffic
Survey Results

School Traffic Survey

The School Traffic Survey was created by the Department of Transportation Services Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program. The purpose of the survey was to gauge traffic issues surrounding schools and areas of interest in SRTS initiatives.

Format

The survey was conducted online in January 2022. It was a total of 15 questions and included both quantitative and qualitative questions.

Distribution

A letter with a link to the survey was distributed by the Department of Education, Office of Facilities and Operations to the four Complex Areas. Schools were notified of the survey by their Complex Area superintendent.

Response

A total of 80 school responses are being considered for this survey. Excluded from the survey are second responses from schools and responses from schools on the island of Hawaii.



Schools

The Following list includes all schools that have completed the survey.

Elementary Schools (54)

Aiea Elementary	Kalihi Uka Elementary
Aikahi Elementary	Kalihi Waena Elementary
Aina Haina Elementary	Kamiloiki Elementary
Alvah Scott Elementary	Kanoelani Elementary
August Ahrens Elementary	Keolu Elementary
Barbers Point Elementary	Kipapa Elementary
Blanche Pope Elementary	Koko Head Elementary
Chiefess Kapiolani Elementary	Leihoku Elementary
Daniel K. Inouye Elementary	Linapuni Elementary
Ewa Beach Elementary	Maemae Elementary
Hahaione Elementary	Mali Elementary
Haleiwa Elementary	Makaha Elementary
Helemano Elementary	Mauka Lani Elementary
Hickam Elementary	Maunawili Elementary
Hookele Elementary	Mililani Mauka Elementary
Iliahi Elementary	Mililani Uka Elementary
Jefferson Elementary	Mililani Waena Elementary
Kaaawa Elementary	Mokapu Elementary
Kaelepulu Elementary	Nanakuli Elementary
Kaewai Elementary	Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary
Kahala Elementary	Pearl Ridge Elementary
Kahuku Elementary	Pohakea Elementary
Kailua Elementary	Solomon Elementary
Kaimiloa Elementary	Waiailua Elementary
Kainalu Elementary	Waianae Elementary
Kalihi Elementary	Wheeler Elementary
Kalihi Kai Elementary	



Intermediate / Middle Schools (13)

Aliamanu Middle
Ewa Makai Middle
Honouliuli Middle
Kailua Intermediate
Kaimuki Middle
Kalakaua Middle
Kapolei Middle
Mililani Middle
Moanalua Middle
Niu Valley Middle
Stanford B. Dole Middle
Waianae Intermediate
Waipahu Intermediate

High Schools (9)

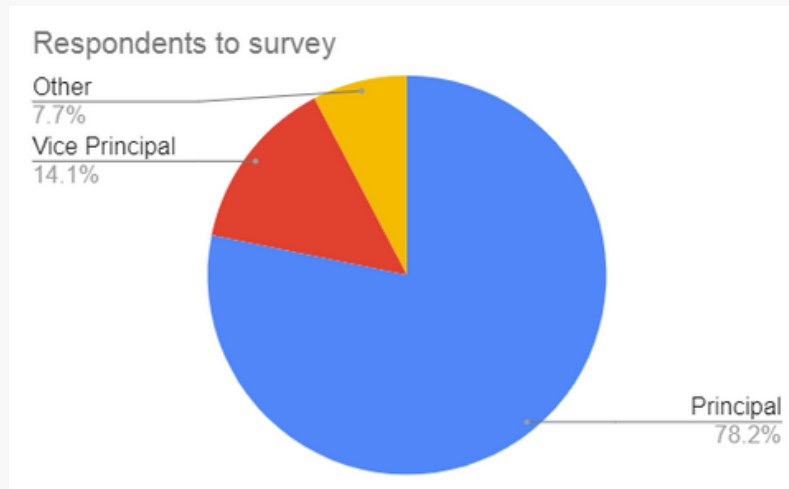
Aiea High
James Campbell High
Kailua High
Kaiser High
Kalaheo High
Kapolei High
Leilehua High
Mililani High
Waianae High

Other (4)

Nanakuli High & Intermediate
Olomana School
Waialua High & Intermediate
Waimanalo Elementary & Intermediate

Who took the survey?

The survey asked for the person who oversees traffic issues at the school to complete the survey. The chart below shows the breakdown of who took the survey.



92% are Principal or Vice Principals

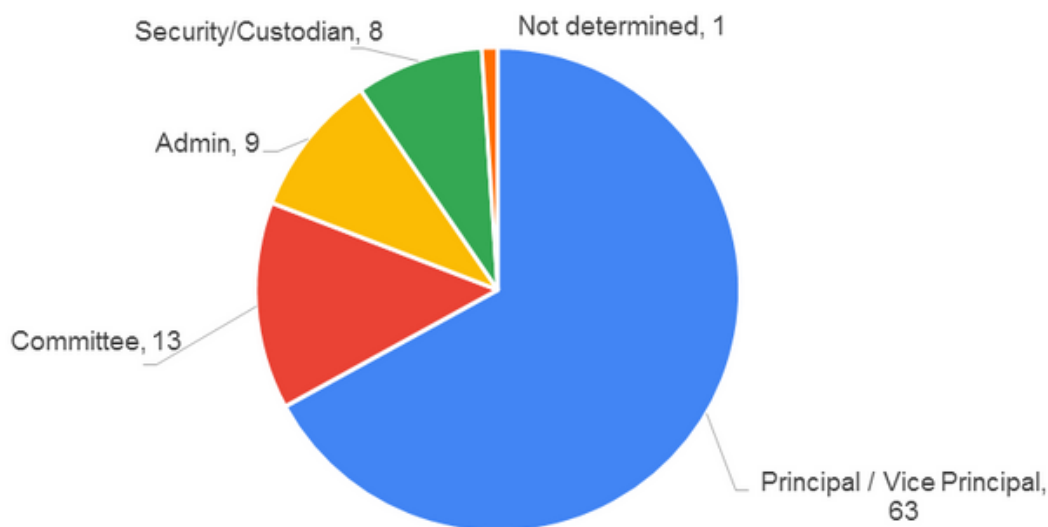
8% are Other

Other includes responses from:

- Registrar's clerk;
- School Traffic Monitor;
- School Safety and Security Officer;
- Administrator;
- Counselor/JPO Advisor;
- School Administrative Services Assistant.

At the majority of schools (78%), the survey was completed by the Principal. Vice Principals completed the survey at a few schools (14%). Seldom was the survey delegated to other staff or committee members.

Who oversees traffic concerns at the school?



*schools may identify more than one person

- 79% Principal or Vice Principal
- 16% some form of committee
- 11% someone in administration or teachers
- 10% security or custodian
- 1% is not determined

At the majority of schools (79%), traffic issues are overseen by the Principal or Vice Principals. At 16% of schools, traffic is overseen by a committee such as the School Safety Committee, School Wellness Committee, or School Operations Team. At 11% of schools, administrative staff including Parent-Community Networking Center (PCNC), teachers, or non-classroom teachers are involved. At 10% of schools, it is the security or head custodian. Schools were allowed to identify more than one person. A combination of individuals were identified by 12 schools.

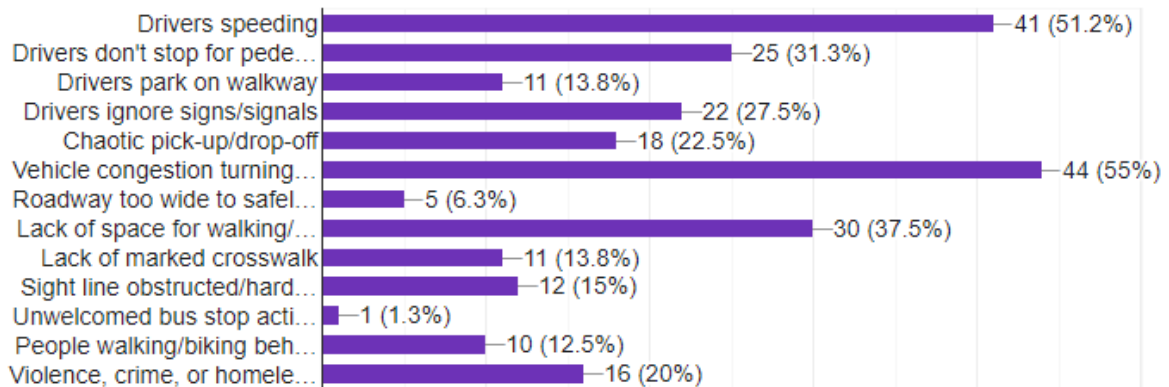
Way forward

It is best to talk with the Principal or Vice Principal first when approaching a school about traffic issues. If traffic concerns are delegated to a committee or personnel, the Principal/Vice Principal can then introduce you to the appropriate person.

What deterrents to walking/biking does the school currently face?

A list of options were provided along with a fill in the blank option. Respondents could select all options that applied.

Top responses:



Primary concerns

55% responded that vehicle congestion turning in/out of school parking lot was an issue

51% responded that drivers speeding was an issue

Secondary concerns

37% said lack of space for walking/biking

31% said drivers don't stop for pedestrians

27% said drivers ignore signs/signals

22% said chaotic pick-up/drop-off

Driver behavior was the top ranking concern. This includes speeding, not stopping for pedestrians, ignoring signs, and parking on walkway. The congestion caused by vehicles turning in/out of the school parking lot was a deterrent for many schools. The built environment was also identified as a deterrent when there was a lack of space for walking/biking (37%), a lack of marked crosswalks (14%), or sight line obstructions making it hard to see people walking and biking (15%). Violence, crime, and homelessness in the area was a deterrent for 20% of respondents. People walking and biking in an unsafe manner was identified but by fewer respondents (12%).

Way Forward

Congestion Reduction

Reducing the volume of vehicles turning in/out of the school should be considered. This could be done by identifying additional locations for pick-up/drop-off to disperse the queuing vehicles. These locations should be further away from the school parking lot. Another option is to create staggered pick-up/drop-off times. Although more challenging, a third option is to promote mode switching from vehicles to riding the bus, biking, or walking by encouraging Walking School Buses or other SRTS initiatives.

Congestion reduction can also be obtained by increasing the flow of traffic or the queuing capacity to increase the number of vehicles that can be accommodated. The Department of Education Office of Facility and Operations, Safety, Security, and Emergency Preparedness Branch can evaluate the traffic flow patterns on campus and make recommendations. A list of schools who responded with traffic congestion being a deterrent to walking/biking is on page 09 and has also been shared with the DOE Office of Facility and Operations, Safety, Security, and Emergency Preparedness Branch.

Driver Concerns

Driver behavior should be addressed by educating parents and the community of the safety concern. Schools can host driver education presentations to inform drivers how their behavior is impacting walking and biking. The Hawaii Bicycling League provides presentations on how to drive near children who are walking and biking. Sign waving can briefly raise awareness of driving issues. Presentations to the neighborhood board or other local community groups on the safety issues can also increase community awareness.

The Department of Transportation Services can conduct speed evaluations to determine if there is speeding as identified by the agency. The department will notify the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) if the agency determines speeding is a concern. HPD can enforce the speed limit by citing drivers who speed. However, to consistently enforce speeding on a wider scale, the creation of a speed camera program to cite drivers who speed in school zones should be pursued.

Built Environment

If the roadway is owned by the City, the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) is the agency that oversees the operations of the road. If there is a lack of space for walking/biking, DTS may be able to consider shoulders or sidewalk improvements depending on the roadway width. However, these are costly and long term projects and the benefits of these improvements will be for students of the future and not for current students.

Crosswalk enhancements are also considered by DTS. If warranted, changes could include curb extensions to increase visibility of pedestrians, crosswalk markings, or in-road signs to bring awareness to the crosswalk.

Reducing sight line obstructions may be possible depending on what is blocking the line of sight. Curb extensions or parking restrictions can increase pedestrian visibility if parked cars are the issue.

Violence, Crime, Homeless issues

The Honolulu Police Department (HPD) should be contacted for any issues resulting from social behavior. HPD provides a presentation on reporting crimes and safety awareness that could be made to parents.

WalkEd and BikeEd

Pedestrian safety education can be given to students through DTS' WalkEd program. Assembly style for the entire school or classroom presentations to 3rd graders can be arranged. The focus of the WalkEd presentation is to educate children on how to walk safely. The City's BikeEd program, operated by the Hawaii Bicycling League, provides bicycle education to 4th graders.

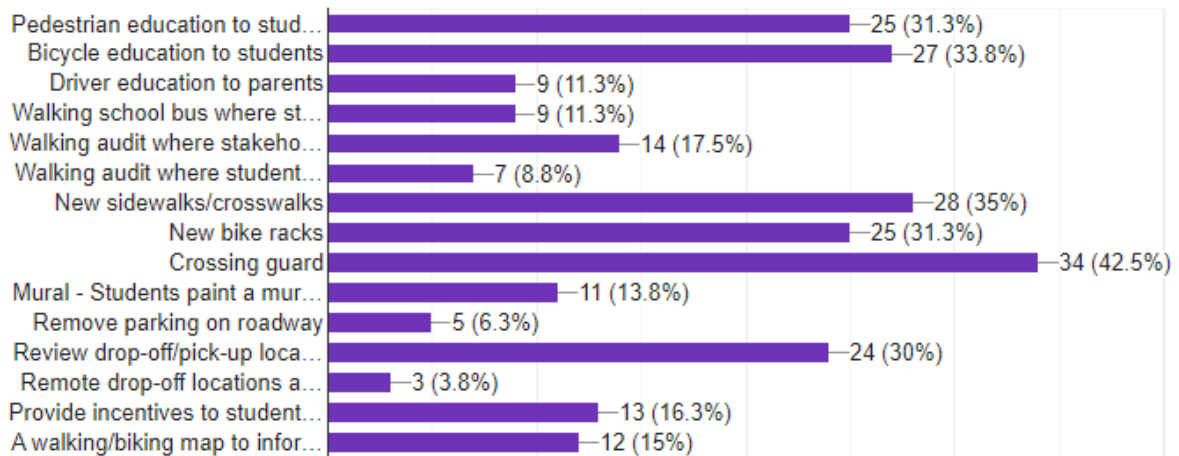
Schools who responded with either having traffic congestion turning in/out of school parking lot and/or having a chaotic pick-up/drop-off:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1.Aiea Elementary | 24.Kalihi Kai Elementary |
| 2.Aiea High | 25.Kalihi Waena Elementary |
| 3.Aikahi Elementary | 26.Kapolei High |
| 4.Aina Haina Elementary | 27.Kanoelani Elementary |
| 5.Aliamanu Middle | 28.Kipapa Elementary |
| 6.Alvah Scott Elementary | 29.Kapolei Middle |
| 7.August Ahrens Elementary | 30.Koko Head Elementary |
| 8.Barbers Point Elementary | 31.Leihoku Elementary |
| 9.Blanche Pope Elementary | 32.Leilehua High |
| 10.Hahaione Elementary | 33.Maunawili Elementary |
| 11.Haleiwa Elementary | 34.Mililani High |
| 12.Helemano Elementary | 35.Mililani Mauka Elementary |
| 13.Hookele Elementary | 36.Mililani Middle |
| 14.James Campbell High | 37.Mililani Uka Elementary |
| 15.Kaelepulu Elementary | 38.Mililani Waena Elementary |
| 16.Kaewai Elementary | 39.Moanalua Middle |
| 17.Kahala Elementary | 40.Nanakuli Elementary |
| 18.Kailua Elementary | 41.Nimitz Elementary |
| 19.Kailua Intermediate | 42.Pearl Ridge Elementary |
| 20.Kainalu Elementary | 43.Waiakea High |
| 21.Kaimuki Middle | 44.Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate |
| 22.Kaiser High | 45.Waipahu Intermediate |
| 23.Kalakaua Middle | 46.Wheeler Elementary |

What initiatives are you interested in having at the school?

A list of options were provided along with a fill in the blank option. Respondents could select all options that applied.

Top responses:



Primary interest

42% of respondents said they would like a crossing guard

Secondary interests

35% said they would like new sidewalks/crosswalks

34% said they would like bicycle education to students

31% said they would like pedestrian education to students

31% said they would like new bike racks

The highest interest was in having a crossing guard. New sidewalks/crosswalks was the second highest interest followed closely by bicycle and pedestrian education to students. Schools are also interested in acquiring new bike racks.

Way Forward

Crossing Guards

Traffic Monitors, commonly known as crossing guards, are trained and employed by the HPD. It is the school's responsibility to find the person interested in being a crossing guard. Once the person is found, the school is to contact HPD's School Traffic Monitor program (STM) at (808)723-3414. The individual will go through a background check, training, and be officially hired by the City under HPD in approximately six (6) months from when they first inquired of the position. It is up to the school to determine where a crossing guard is needed. HPD is able to hire crossing guards as needed. A list of schools who responded with a need for a crossing guard is listed on page 12 and has been shared with the STM.

Built Environment

See page 07 regarding the built environment and new sidewalks.

WalkEd and BikeEd

See page 08 regarding pedestrian and bicycle safety education.

Bike Racks

Schools may contact the Department of Education Facility & Maintenance Branch and submit a School Initiated Project (SIP) to install a pole and chain bike rack.



Pole and chain bike rack at Kailua Intermediate.

Stand alone bike racks are available for purchase from retail stores and can range from \$600 to \$1,200 (including shipping costs) depending on the model.



Hoop rack



Wave rack



U rack in series



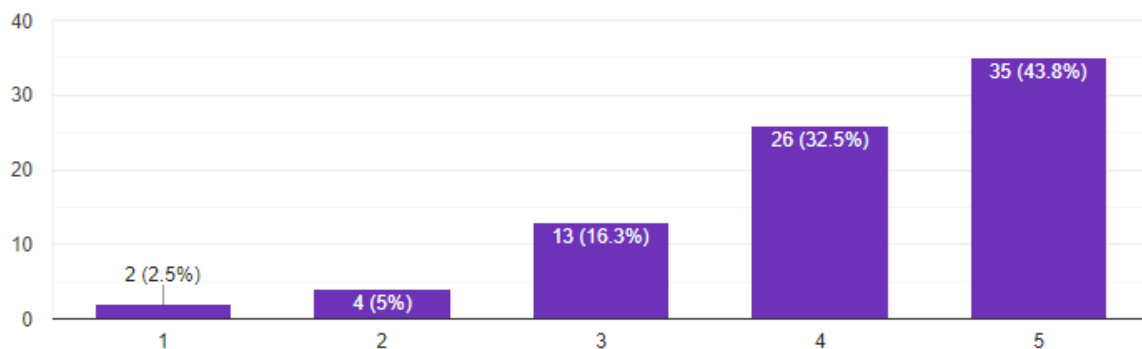
Grid rack

Schools who responded with a need for a crossing guard:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1.Mokapu Elementary | 18.Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary |
| 2.Nanakuli Elementary | 19.Mililani Waena Elementary |
| 3.Maili Elementary | 20.Aiea Elementary |
| 4.Kalaheo High | 21.Kipapa Elementary |
| 5.Hahaione Elementary | 22.Makaha Elementary |
| 6.Linapuni Elementary | 23.Kailua Intermediate |
| 7.Waipahu Intermediate | 24.Kaelepulu Elementary |
| 8.Kailua Elementary | 25.Pearl Ridge Elementary |
| 9.Waianae Intermediate | 26.Niu Valley Middle |
| 10.Kalakaua Middle | 27.Honouliuli Middle |
| 11.Kanoelani Elementary | 28.Kamiloiki Elementary |
| 12.August Ahrens Elementary | 29.Maemae Elementary |
| 13.Kahala Elementary | 30.Aina Haina Elementary |
| 14.Kalihi Elementary | 31.Hookele Elementary |
| 15.Nimitz Elementary | 32.Mililani Mauka Elementary |
| 16.Moanalua Middle | 33.Waialua Elementary |
| 17.Alvah Scott Elementary | 34.Koko Head Elementary |

How important is it to increase road safety on the streets surrounding your school?

The survey provided a rating scale from 1 to 5. 1 being not a priority and 5 being very high priority.



44% responded with a 5 - very high priority

93% responded with a 3 or higher

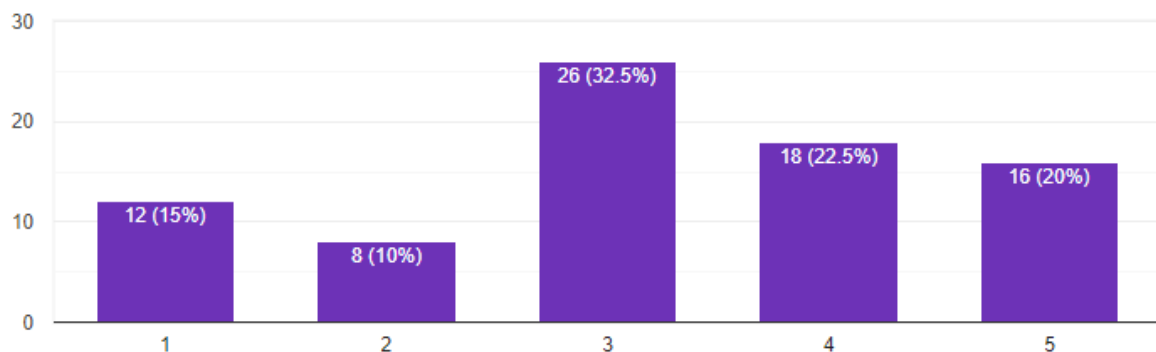
Roadway safety on the streets surrounding the school is an area of importance for almost all schools. 76% of schools rate its importance as very high priority or high priority.

Way Forward

Schools should be included in roadway improvement projects to gain insight into the issues schools may be having with the road.

How interested are you in partnering with other SRTS stakeholders to increase students walking/biking to school?

The survey provided a rating scale from 1 to 5. 1 being not interested at all and 5 being very interested.



33% responded with a 3 - somewhat interested

75% responded with a 3 or higher

15% responded with a 1 - not interested at all

Most schools are interested in partnering with others. The majority (33%) are somewhat interested and 20% are very interested. In comparison to the previous question on the importance of roadway safety where 93% reported 3 or higher, schools are not as keen to partner with other stakeholders to increase walking and biking (75%).

Way Forward

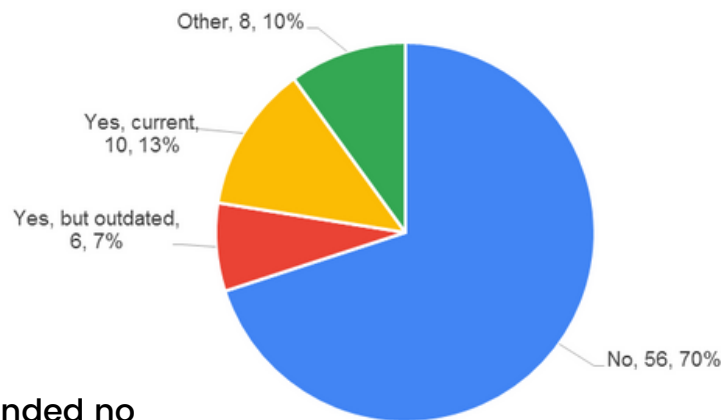
Since schools vary on their interest in partnerships to increase walking/biking, it is important to work with a school that would like to create a partnership. The following schools answered they are very interested in partnerships:

Aikahi Elementary
August Ahrens Elementary
Blanche Pope Elementary
Ewa Beach Elementary
Hahaione Elementary

Hookele Elementary
Kainalu Elementary
Kalihi Elementary
Kamiloiki Elementary
Linapuni Elementary

Maili Elementary
Wheeler Elementary
Kailua Intermediate
Aiea High
Kapolei High
Kalaheo High

Does your school have a School Traffic Control Plan, SRTS Plan, or any other document that outlines transportation issues and solutions?



70% responded no

13% responded yes, it is current

7% responded yes, but it is outdated

10% responded with their own response to the question

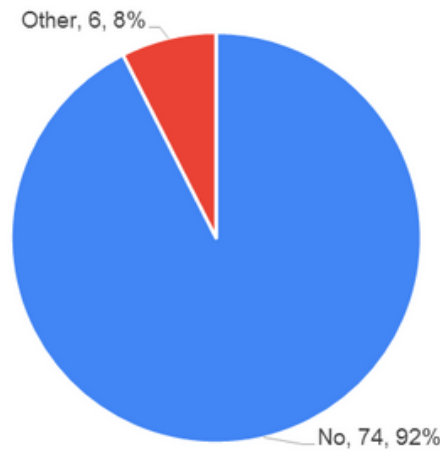
The majority of schools operate without any formal document on traffic or school transportation. Of those who answered with their own response, 3 are not sure, 3 have an informal plan that is understood, 2 have a pick-up/drop-off procedure.

Way Forward

The benefit to having a document that outlines transportation solutions is that information can be easily agreed upon and conveyed. Schools may want to consider if their current school procedures are supporting walking and biking to school and how they could support these mode choices.

Is there a Walking School Bus (WSB) to your school?

A WSB is an organized group of students who meet and walk to school together.



92% responded No

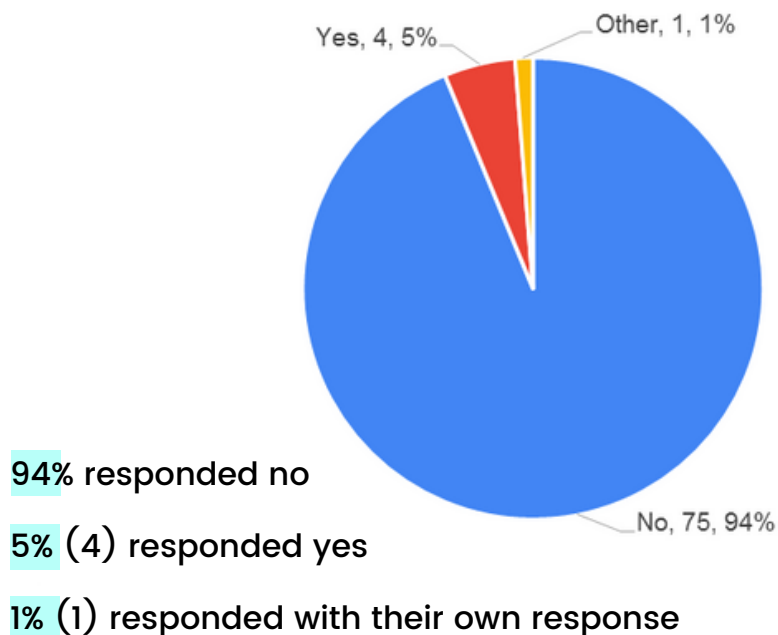
8% responded with their own response to the question

None of the responding schools currently have a formal WSB. Of the schools who provided their own responses, three mention kids walking to school together informally and parents organizing on their own, two report past efforts to start a WSB but no longer continuing it, one reports not having a WSB because it is a high school.

Way Forward

Schools may want to promote WSB as an annual event to spur interest in WSB and provide opportunity for students to meet others in their neighborhood who walk to school.

Do you have data (survey, etc) on how parent's feel about their child walking/biking to school?



Almost all schools have not collected data on how parents feel about their child walking/biking to school. One school mentioned the School Quality Survey.

Way Forward

Conducting a parent survey will help schools identify the barriers to walking/biking to school and measure interest in creating a walking school bus. It also provides an opportunity to collect contact information of parents who want to participate in supporting a SRTS initiative. An online parent survey can be accessed from <http://honolulu.gov/srts>.

What specific traffic solutions do you want to see implemented, if any?

Respondents provided their own answer to this question.

Responses include:

"Lessen the amount of parents waiting to pick up their child. This causes traffic to back up."

"There are no sidewalks in the neighborhood surrounding our school."

"Install speed bumps around the school as a traffic calming measure."

"HPD to help direct traffic and ensure traffic safety on the county street."

"Parents to show more responsible student drop off behavior."

"I would like a crossing guard at our main intersection."

There are a variety of responses to this question with common themes emerging. The desire for improved crosswalk, sidewalks, or bike lanes was the most common solution. Other themes included speed reduction, reducing traffic congestion, restructuring pick-up/drop-off logistics, removing parking, and hiring crossing guards. A list of the themes and schools are on the following pages.

Way Forward

SRTS initiatives can support these solutions. Starting a SRTS initiative in one or more of the 5 E's could help address the issues raised.

Traffic solutions – Breakdown of themes and schools:

Crosswalk/Sidewalk/Bike lane improvement (18).

Ewa Beach Elementary	Alvah Scott Elementary
Maunawili Elementary	Kalihi Waena Elementary
August Ahrens Elementary	James Campbell High
Daniel K Inouye Elementary	Mililani High
Waiialua High & Intermediate	Makaha Elementary
Nimitz Elementary	Kamiloiki Elementary
Waimanalo Elementary & Intermediate	Kalihi Uka Elementary
Helemano Elementary	Hickam Elementary
Barbers Point Elementary	Aina Haina Elementary

Speed reduction (11).

Nanakuli Elementary	Haleiwa Elementary
Mali Elementary	Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary
Wheeler Elementary	Jefferson Elementary
Joel Shiroma	Honouliuli Middle
Mauka Lani Elementary	Waianae High
Kaimiloa Elementary	

Reducing traffic congestion (7).

Kainalu Elementary	Kahala Elementary
Mililani Middle	Moanalua Middle
Keolu Elementary	Pearl Ridge Elementary
Hookele Elementary	

Improved drop-off/pick-up logistics and flow of traffic (7).

Waianae Elementary	Niu Valley Middle
Kailua Elementary	Mililani High
Aliamanu Middle	Waipahu Intermediate
Aiea High	

Crossing Guard (7).

Mokapu Elementary	Aikahi Elementary School
Kalihi Elementary	Waiialua Elementary
Alvah Scott Elementary	Koko Head Elementary
Kailua Intermediate	

Restricting parking to improve visibility, flow of traffic, or walkway access (5).

Hahaione Elementary
Linapuni Elementary
Sanford B. Dole Middle
August Ahrens Elementary
Kaimiloa Elementary

Police presence (4).

Leihoku Elementary
Waiakea High
Solomon Elementary
Kaaawa Elementary

Traffic light adjustments to improve flow of traffic (3).

Waianae Intermediate
Mililani Waena Elementary
Aiea Elementary

Driver behavior education (2).

Kahuku Elementary
Kailua Intermediate

Parking lot renovation (2).

Kaelepulu Elementary
Kalihi Kai Elementary

Bus pick-up (2).

Kapolei High
Leilehua High

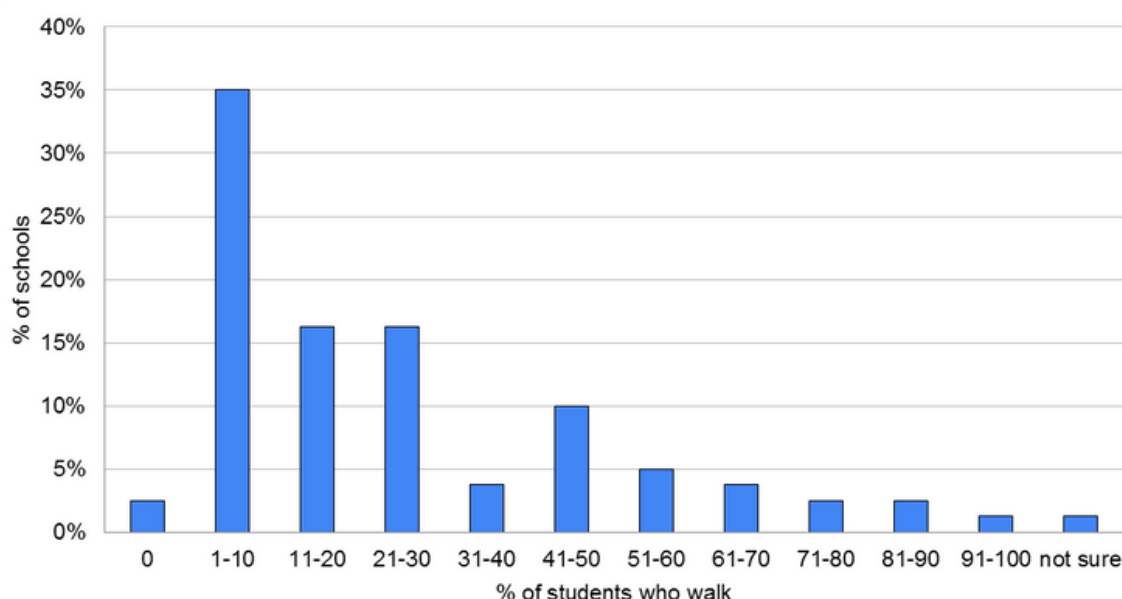
School Traffic Control Plan (1).

Kalaheo High

None/Unsure (16).

Nanakuli High & Intermediate
Olomana School
Kaimuki Middle
Kapolei Middle
Mililani Uka Elementary
Kanoelani Elementary
Blanche Pope Elementary
Ewa Makai Middle
Kipapa Elementary
Pohakea Elementary
Kailua High
Kaewai Elementary
Maemae Elementary
Iiahia Elementary
Mililani Mauka Elementary
Chiefess Kapiolani Elementary

Approximately what percentage of your students WALK to school?



35% of schools report 1 – 10% of their students walk

67% of schools report 1 – 30% of their students walk

19% of schools have 31 – 60% of their students walk

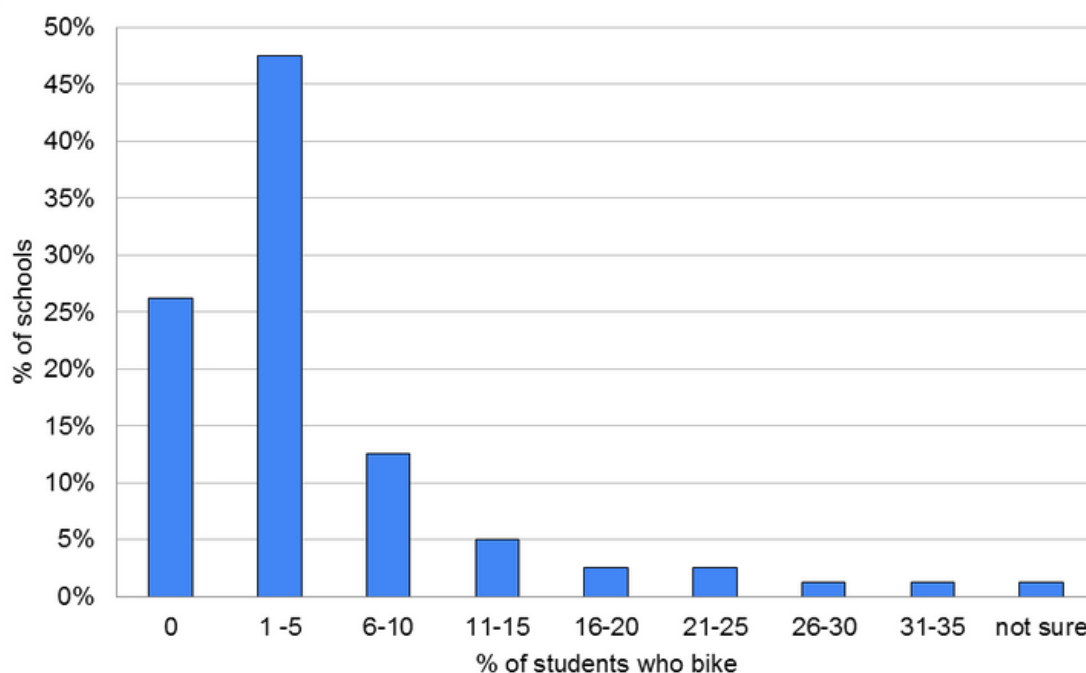
10% of schools have 61 – 90% of their students walk

Thirty-five percent of schools (28 schools) identified that anywhere from 1 – 10% of the student body walks. The majority, 67% of schools (54 schools), has 1 – 30% of the student body that walks. There are 2 schools that responded that 0 students walk. There is 1 school who responded that 100% of its students walk.

Way Forward

Schools can support students who are currently walking by doing encouragement initiatives such as holding a competition between classrooms or a walk to school day.

Approximately what percentage of your students BIKE to school?



48% responded 1 - 5% of the student body bikes

26% responded 0% of the student body bikes

13% responded 6-10% of the student body bikes

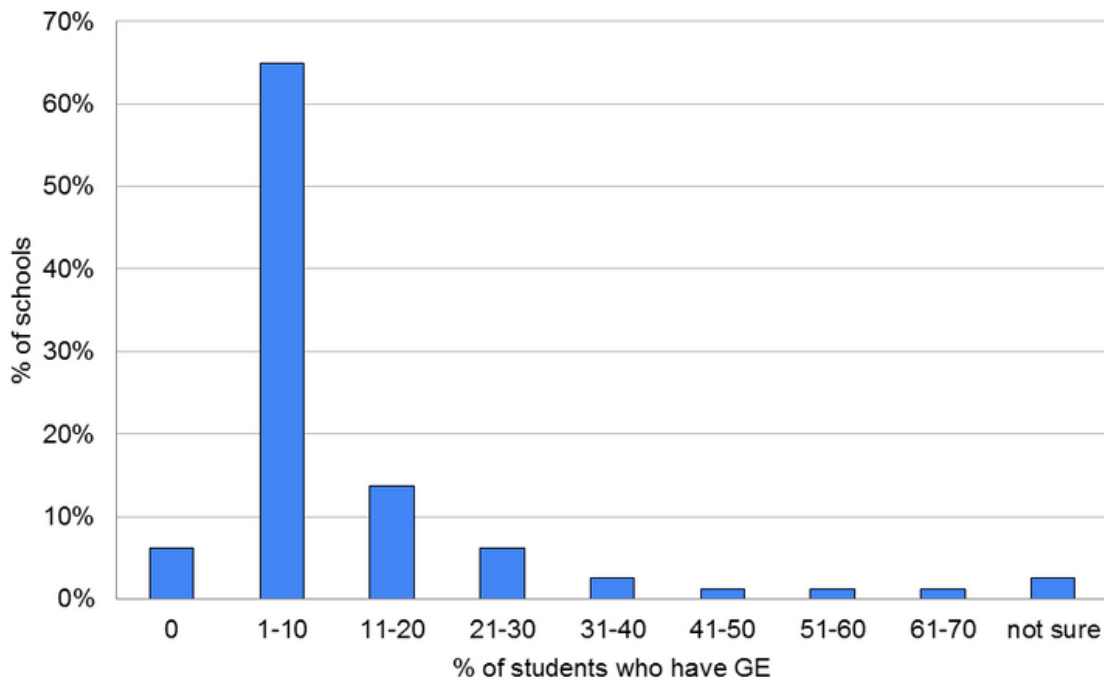
13% responded 11-35% of the student body bikes

Forty-eight percent of schools (38 schools) identified 1 - 5% of the student body bikes. The majority, 74% of schools (59 schools), have 5% or less of the student body that bikes.

Way Forward

Since bicycling to school is currently not as popular as walking, schools may want to focus limited resources on encouraging walking to school.

Approximately what percentage of your students have a geographic exemption (GE) to your school?



65% responded they have 1 - 10% of students with a GE

The majority of schools have less than 10% of students with a Geographic Exemption.

Way Forward

Schools with higher GE rates will likely have more students who are driven by car and may, therefore, want to consider drop-off and walk locations nearby the school to encourage walking and reduce traffic congestion on school campus.